



Applicant's Docket No. 050-98-021

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PATENT
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I certify that on May 25, 2001, which is the date I am signing this certificate, this correspondence and all identified attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.


Peter L. Holmes

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Brudnicki, M.

Serial No.: 09/415,467

Group No.: 1745

Filed: Oct. 8, 1999

Examiner: Mercado, J.

For: Method and Apparatus for Fuel Cell Packaging

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

This communication is filed in response to the Office Action mailed on April 2, 2001.

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I. Restriction and Applicant's Election With Traverse

In paragraph 1 of the Office Action, restriction to one of the following groups of claims was required:

- I. Claims 1-9 (classified in class 429, subclass 35)
- II. Claims 10-22 (classified in class 429, subclass 34)

Applicant provisionally elects Claims 1-9 with traverse, and requests reconsideration and withdrawal or modification of the restriction requirement for the reasons set forth below.

Applicant discloses and claims a method and apparatus for fuel cell packaging. Claims 1-22 all recite a fuel cell receptacle with a plurality of manifolds or port interfaces. Accordingly, is it respectfully submitted that Groups I and II do not recite divergent subject matter. Withdrawal or modification of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



May 25, 2001

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